Name _____

What is a Math Lab (Part 2)
A thinkLaw Math Lab

About thinkLaw

A Math Lab is an opportunity for you to try what you're learning in math with real-life legal cases and issues! Math Labs are also an opportunity to listen to the other thinkers in class. They will help you think of more ideas.

thinkPractice

Jack bought 2 umbrellas and 3 hats and spent between $30 and $50. Each umbrella costs the same amount. Each hat costs the same amount. The price of a hat is $4.00.

What is the least amount Jack could have spent for each umbrella? Solve.

Pretend you are the teacher grading the assignment. Student A and Student B both got the answers wrong.

Student A	Student B
2 x 4 = 8	3 x 4 = 12
30 – 8 = 22	30 – 12 = 28

What's your gut reaction, which student deserves to make a better grade? Why?

_____

_____

Look at their work, what mistake did each student make?

Student A Mistake	Student B Mistake

Which student deserves to get a better grade?

_____

_____

_____

As the teacher, what's your final decision? Which wrong answer is more right?

☐ Student A
☐ Student B

Now we are going to think about Joe Schmo. Joe always falls for the trick answer. Joe does not read the directions carefully. Joe does not complete all the steps in a problem. We are going to think about the mistakes Joe may make on a math test.

Let's go back to the original problem.

Jack bought 2 umbrellas and 3 hats and spent between $30 and $50. Each umbrella costs the same amount. Each hat costs the same amount. The price of a hat is $4.00. What is the least amount Jack could have spent for each umbrella?

If we surveyed 100 students in our school and asked them "What mistake would Joe Schmo make on this question?", what would be the #1 response?

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1	
2	
3	

Use these top three mistakes to write 4 multiple-choice answers to the question. Be sure to also include the correct response.

Jack bought 2 umbrellas and 3 hats and spent between $30 and $50. Each umbrella costs the same amount. Each hat costs the same amount. The price of a hat is $4.00. What is the least amount Jack could have spent for each umbrella?	
A	
B	
C	
D	

thinkReflection

How was that similar/ different to the math we do every day? Why?

_____

_____

_____

In the real world we must think critically using math. Why don't we do that more often in our math classes? Why is that more fun?

_____

_____

_____

thinkTips

Use the space below to write in the 3 tips to be successful with Math Labs.

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1.

That is the point of the thinkLaw math labs! It's important for us to tackle big problems together. We learn by trying!

2.

This is an opportunity for you to synthesize or use EVERYTHING you know about math to tackle the problems. Math is flexible. There is more than one way to solve a problem!

3.

Math is supposed to make sense. If something doesn't make sense, ask! Also, be curious! What do these math labs make you wonder about the world?

Most Importantly… Show Up with Your WHOLE Self and HAVE FUN! You can laugh and learn at the same time.

Your neighbor was absent today, how would you summarize this lesson for them?

_____

_____

What would you say to someone that says that we just need to be practicing test prep questions every day?

_____

_____

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